

# GEORGIA

NOTE: Littoral claims of former Soviet States are considered to remain in effect until declared otherwise.

## a. SUMMARY OF CLAIMS

TYPE	DATE	SOURCE	LIMITS	NOTES
VII. MARITIME BOUNDARIES	Apr 73	Agreement		Territorial sea boundary with Turkey signed; ratified by former USSR, Jan 74; see <u>LIS</u> No. 59, 109.
VIII. LAW OF THE SEA CONVENTION	Mar 96			Became party to Convention and Part XI Agreement.

## c. MARITIME BOUNDARIES

### 1. AGREEMENT TERRITORIAL SEA BOUNDARY: SOVIET UNION-TURKEY (IN THE BLACK SEA)

The Governments of the Republic of Turkey and the former USSR signed a protocol on April 17, 1973, concerning the territorial sea boundary between the two states in the Black Sea.

The agreement provides in part that the parties have agreed that the territorial waters limit between the Turkish and Soviet territorial waters in the Black Sea begins at the last point on the shore of the land border between the Republic of Turkey and the USSR, stretching along a 290 degree azimuth to the outer limit of the territorial waters (12 nm) of the Turkish Republic and the USSR.

The landward terminus is at 41°31'15"N.; 41°30'12"E. The seaward extent of the territorial sea boundary is at 41°36'00"N., 41°13'15"E., at a water depth of about 650 meters.

**2. ANALYSIS** The following analysis is extracted from Limits in the Seas, No. 109, "Continental Shelf Boundary: Turkey - U.S.S.R. and Straight Baselines: U.S.S.R. (Black Sea)," 29 September 1988.

Territorial Sea Boundary. The territorial sea boundary between Turkey and the USSR was defined by a protocol signed on April 17, 1973. Under the terms of this protocol the territorial sea boundary was to begin at the terminus of their land boundary and extend northwest at a 290° azimuth to the outer limit of the territorial sea claims (12 nautical miles of Turkey and the USSR; a joint commission was to undertake the delimitation of the territorial sea boundary. The results of this commission's work are given in the 1983 protocol. The coordinates of the terminal points of the territorial sea boundary listed in the protocol vary slightly from those given in the earlier study by the Office of the Geographer due to differences in the initial point selected, charts used, and mathematical model (shape) assumed for the earth's surface.

Nature of the Boundary. The territorial sea boundary is a single, almost 13 nautical mile (nm) geodetic line segment extending from the terminus of the Turkey-USSR land boundary, which has redemarcated between 1969 and 1973, to the outer limit of the 12 nm territorial seas claimed by both Turkey and the USSR. The geodetic character of the line segment can be deduced because a rhumb line with the same terminal points has a slightly smaller azimuth than that required under terms of the 1973 protocol and reiterated in the 1983 delimitation protocol (290°00'00"). A geodetic line with the terminal points listed in the 1983 protocol fulfills the azimuthal requirement.

A geodetic line also best fulfills the term "straight line," which is used in the 1980 Protocol. A rhumb line, though appearing as a straight line on a Mercator map, is a spiral on the surface of the earth, whereas a geodetic line is the shortest--and therefore straightest--line between two points on a mathematically defined spheroid surface, such as the surface of the earth.

Depiction. The territorial sea boundary was depicted on maps reprinted with the 1983 protocol and technical appendices in the Turkish gazette. The protocol explicitly states that calculations were done on the Turkish system of coordinates using a Gauss-Kruger (transverse Mercator) projection and Hayford ellipsoid.

EXCERPTS FROM THE PROTOCOL-DESCRIPTION OF THE COURSE OF THE SOVIET-TURKISH SEA BOUNDARY LINE BETWEEN THE TERRITORIAL SEAS OF THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS AND THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY IN THE BLACK SEA.

The sea boundary line between Soviet and Turkish territorial seas in the Black Sea is defined at the locality of two leading marks and one sea spar buoy in the sea.

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Calculation of the rectangular coordinates of the centers of the front and rear range marks, as well as the installation point of the sea spar buoy and the terminal point of the sea boundary line were done under the Turkish system of coordinates, under the Gauss-Kruger projection on the Hayford ellipsoid in the coordinated zone with axial meridian  $Lo = 42^\circ$ . The elevation indicated in the documents were calculated on the mean level of the Black Sea.

The map of the sea boundary between the territorial waters of the [USSR] and the Republic of Turkey in the Black Sea is compiled on a scale of 1:100,000.

Moreover, the topographic plan was compiled of the border zone of the Soviet-Turkish boundary in the region where the range marks are located, on a scale of 1:5000.

With respect to the range marks which define the sea boundary line, the following documents have been compiled: protocol of the front range mark, protocol of the rear range mark, rough sketch-diagram on a scale of 1:2,500, and protocol of the sea spar buoy.

A map, plan and rough sketch-diagram were compiled by each side independently in its own language in accordance with instructions approved by the Joint Soviet-Turkish Commission on Delimiting the Sea Boundary.

The initial point of the sea boundary line between the territorial waters of the [USSR] and the Republic of Turkey in the Black Sea is the final point of the Soviet-Turkish state land boundary, defined during the redemarcation of the boundary in 1969-1973.

In accordance with documents of the border redemarcation of December 29, 1973, this point is located at the place where the shoreline of the Black Sea intersects with the continuation of the perpendicular dropped from the center of the special boundary mark, which is located on the land boundary line, onto the direct line uniting the Soviet and Turkish column of the main boundary mark No. 450.

The geographic and rectangular coordinates of the initial point of the sea boundary line are as follows:

latitude = $41^\circ 31' 18.39''$	longitude = $41^\circ 32' 55.06''$
X = 4,596,860.80	Y = 462,337.80

From the point indicated above, the Soviet-Turkish sea boundary line between the territorial waters of the [USSR] and the Republic of Turkey passes  $290^\circ$  azimuth, and approaches the final point of the Soviet-Turkish sea boundary line at a point that intersects the external boundary line of the territorial seas of the [USSR] and the Republic of Turkey.

The final point of the sea boundary line between the USSR and Turkey in the Black Sea is defined as the point where the 12-mile boundary of Soviet and Turkish territorial seas, formed by arcs drawn at a distance of 12 miles from the Soviet and Turkish coasts, intersects the boundary line between the territorial seas, passing along the  $290^\circ 00' 00''$  azimuth.

The geographic and rectangular coordinates of the final point of the sea boundary line are as follows:

latitude = $41^\circ 35' 43.41''$	longitude = $41^\circ 16' 40.88''$
X = 4,605,187.44	Y = 439,827.34

The length of the sea boundary line between Soviet and Turkish territorial seas equals 12.96 nautical miles (24.01 km).

A sea spar buoy is emplaced in order to define the sea boundary line near the coast at a distance of 400 meters from the center of the front range mark.

The range marks built on the extension of the sea boundary line on the territory of the [USSR] and the Republic of Turkey are located at a distance of 288.50 meters from one another and are situated as follows: the front range mark in the region of main boundary mark No. 450, and the rear range mark in the region of main boundary mark No. 448.

The range marks provide shields for daytime visibility and for the lighting (beacon) equipment, and are counted on to ensure daytime and nighttime visibility during good atmospheric conditions all along the sea boundary line.

At night the direction of the sea boundary line is defined by combining the light of the rear range mark with the white light of the central light sector of the front range mark along the vertical line.

The lighting (beacon) equipment of the front range mark is equipped with a red and green light filter, each having a lighting sector of  $10^\circ$ . The red light warns vessels approaching from the Turkish Side, and the green light warns vessels approaching from the Soviet side that they are nearing the boundary line.

Two lateral white lights of the lighting sector of the front range mark point out to the vessels the location of that sign.

In terms of locality, the distance between range marks is slight (288.50 m). Therefore the range marks will be seen as overlapping at certain distance on both sides from the sea boundary line. In the middle of the boundary this distance is approximately 150 meters, while at the end of the boundary it is approximately 550 meters to each side of the sea boundary line.